

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A recording and reproducing apparatus performing recording and/or reproducing according to a helical scanning system, in which a tape-shaped recording medium is helically wound around a head drum and scanned with a rotating head, characterized in that:

a brake arm is disposed in proximity to a supply-side reel table with which a supply-side reel reeling out the tape-shaped recording medium engages, a brake member that includes a non-circular hole for coupling to a pin on the brake arm such that the brake member is swingable about the pin with a swinging center that is movable within the hole is attached on the brake arm to be swingable and in a state where a swinging center thereof is movable, the brake member is urged by an urging member incorporated on the brake arm in a brake releasing direction; and

when the supply-side reel table is driven to rotate in a direction to take up the tape-shaped recording medium, the brake member moves to a center of the supply-side reel table and is separated from the supply-side reel table by the urging member to release the brake member.

2. (previously presented) The recording and reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that:

the brake member moves in the releasing direction when the supply-side reel table is driven to rotate in a taking-up direction in a state where the brake arm is located at an active position and the supply-side reel table receives a braking force from the braking member.

3. (previously presented) The recording and reproducing apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that:

the brake member moves in the releasing direction when the supply-side reel table is driven to rotate through a predetermined angle in the taking-up direction at a time of starting to load the tape-shaped recording medium on the head drum in a state where the tape-shaped recording medium is not taken up by a take-up side reel engaging a take-up side reel table.

4. (previously presented) The recording and reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that:

the brake arm is mounted together with the supply-side reel table and the take-up side reel table on a slide chassis capable of approaching and separating from the head drum; and a pin supporting the brake member on the brake arm is located at a relieved edge of the slide chassis.

5. (previously presented) The recording and reproducing apparatus according to claim 4, characterized in that:

the pin supporting the brake member is received in a concave cut formed on an edge of the slide chassis on a side opposite to the head drum.

6. (currently amended) A recording and reproducing apparatus performing recording and/or reproducing according to a helical scanning system, by helically winding a tape-shaped recording medium around a head drum and by helically scanning the tape-shaped recording medium with a rotating head, characterized in that:

a supply-side reel table and a take-up side reel table, with which a supply-side reel reeling out the tape-shaped recording medium and a take-up side reel taking up the tape-shaped recording medium engage, respectively, are mounted on a slide

chassis capable of approaching and separating from the head drum;

a brake lever is disposed in proximity to the take-up side reel table with which the take-up side reel taking up the tape-shaped recording medium engages, the brake lever releases braking when the reel table rotates in a taking-up direction and performing a braking operation when the reel table rotates in an opposite direction to the taking-up direction; and

restricting means for restricting the brake lever in an inactive state is mounted on the slide chassis, a release member is mounted on a main chassis on which the head drum is mounted, and restriction of the brake lever by the restricting means is released by the release member when the slide chassis moves to a head drum side, the restricting means continually applying a force to the brake lever, and the brake lever being released from restriction when a force applied by the release member overcomes the force applied by the restricting means.

7. (previously presented) A recording and reproducing apparatus according to claim 6, characterized in that:

the take-up side reel table is provided with a magnet clutch and a gear; and the brake lever brakes the reel table through the magnet clutch when the brake lever engages with the gear.

8. (previously presented) A recording and reproducing apparatus according to claim 7, characterized in that:

a brake gear engaging with the gear of the reel table is provided; the brake gear and the brake lever engage with each other with friction; a rotation of the reel table is transmitted to the brake lever through the gear and the brake gear; and braking and releasing of the brake lever are performed according to a rotation direction of the reel table.

9. (previously presented) A recording and reproducing apparatus according to claim 8, characterized in that:

the brake lever and the brake gear are mounted on the slide chassis through a brake holder; and the brake holder abuts against the release member on the main chassis to release the restriction of the brake lever by the restricting means when the slide chassis moves to the head drum side.

10. (previously presented) A recording and reproducing apparatus according to claim 9, characterized in that:

the brake lever is urged in a direction in which the brake lever is turned to be in the inactive state by the restricting means through the brake holder; and the release member swings the brake holder the releasing direction against the restricting means.

11. (previously presented) A recording and reproducing apparatus according to claim 9, characterized in that:

the restricting means is a helical spring supported by a supporting member on the slide chassis; and the brake lever is urged to swing in a direction to an inactive state by a free end of the helical spring.

12. (currently amended) A recording and reproducing apparatus performing recording and/or reproducing according to a helical scanning system, by helically winding a tape-shaped recording medium around a head drum and by helically scanning the tape-shaped recording medium with a rotating head, characterized in that:

a tape cassette wound with the tape-shaped recording medium therein is moved in a direction approaching the head drum by a slide chassis to perform the recording and/or the reproducing

with the tape-shaped recording medium pulled out from the tape cassette;

a reel brake for braking a reel wound with the tape-shaped recording medium in the tape cassette is provided, the reel brake performing a braking operation when pulling out the tape-shaped recording medium from the reel, the reel brake releasing the braking operation when taking up the tape-shaped recording medium;

restricting means for restricting the reel brake by coercively releasing the reel brake during a movement of the slide chassis equipped with the tape cassette provided on the slide chassis, the restricting means continually applying a force to the reel brake; and

release means for releasing restriction by the restricting means when the slide chassis equipped with the tape cassette moves to a head drum side provided on a main chassis mounted with the head drum,

the reel brake being released from restriction when a force applied by the release means overcomes the force applied by the restricting means.

13. (previously presented) A recording and reproducing apparatus according to claim 12, characterized in that:

the reel brake performs the braking operation and the releasing the brake operation according to a rotation direction of the reel.

14. (previously presented) A recording and reproducing apparatus according to claim 12, characterized in that:

the reel brake is disposed in proximity to a take-up side reel table.